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Administrative - Internal Use Only

3 0 MAY 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Administration

SUBJECT : Office of Security Policy Review

Conference

- 1. This memorandum is for your information only.
- 2. In the course of fairly wide-ranging discussions during the Policy Review Conference held by this Office in March, the topic of the effects of the Watergate investigations and the Presidential Commission on this Office, its image, and its personnel was explored.
- On the broad issue of office "image" there was no agreement. Some felt that it was not significantly impaired; others felt that serious erosion had taken place. Those holding the latter view cited a drop in security support requests and fewer "self-referrals" by employees possessing personal problems. Most of the participants, however, did not feel these phenomena were necessarily related to office "image." They felt that the lessening of support requirements was a result of an Agency-wide hesitancy to levy domestic requirements, such as special inquiries, pending a clearer understanding of the ground rules as they will eventually emerge from the present Congressional and Executive inquiries. They also felt it was a good bet that the diminution of "selfreferrals" could be traced back to the reductions of 1973 and a resultant wariness among Agency personnel rather than the current situation.
- 4. On the more specific issue of those employees involved in support activity under scrutiny by the Presidential Commission and/or the Congressional committees, it was felt that a very real problem exists in the eyes of those employees.

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- 5. They cannot really grasp why this Agency did not provide legal guidance to the extent of explaining to each individual, against the background of his own activities, just what his rights might be and what options might be open to him, e.g., did the Presidential Commission possess subpoena powers?
- 6. They fail to understand why the Office of General Counsel so readily divorces itself from this type of legal problems which, if they exist, arose during the course of their Agency employment.
- 7. They also feel the need for individual answers from management to questions such as what the Agency expects of them or what effect the possible erosion of their cover will have on their Agency careers. They do not wish any guidance as to what "story" they should tell.
- 8. Underlying all of this seems to be a simple question of perception. They perceive the Agency as having no interest in them. They perceive themselves as being alone.
- 9. Undoubtedly, much of this is caused by scrupulous efforts on the part of this Agency to avoid undue influence or interference (or even the appearance of having done so) but in their eyes a little more personal attention to them as individuals would be reassuring.

Charles W. Kane Director of Security

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